

# Branched Vinyl Ester Copolymers for Intumescent Emulsion Paints

Coatings Trends & Technologies Summit  
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# Content

1. Intumescent Coatings
2. Highly Aliphatic Vinyl Ester
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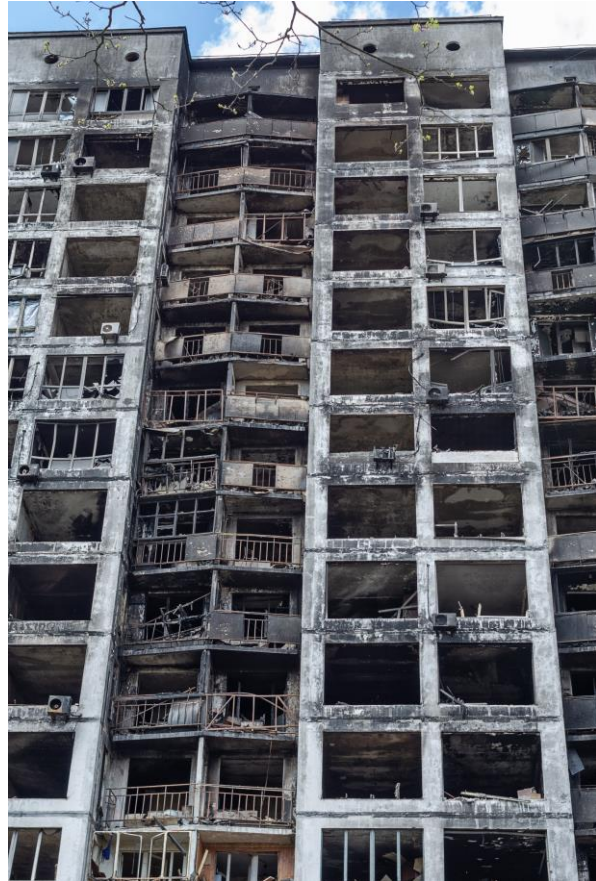
Section 1

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# Intumescent Coatings

# Building Fires

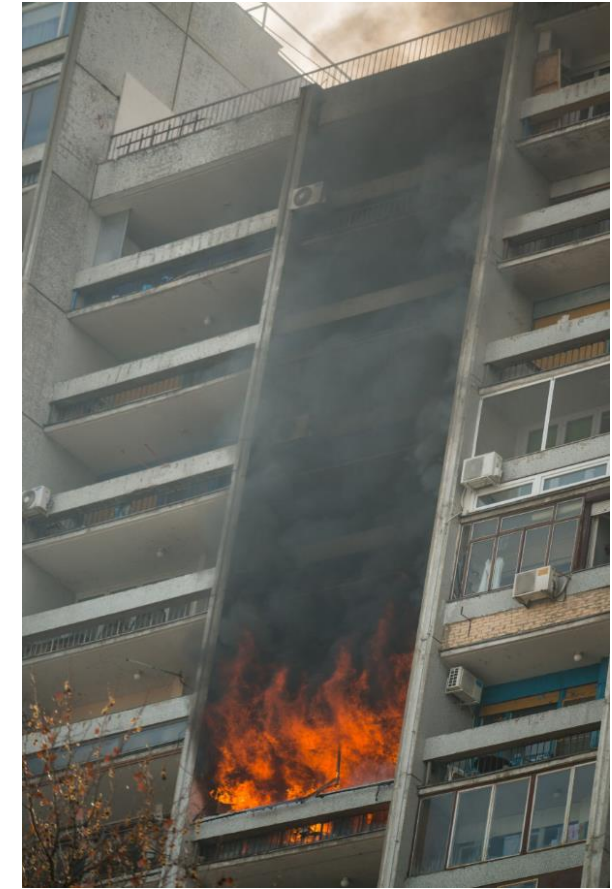
The need for better fire protection



**UK 2017, 73 dead**



**Spain 2024, 10 dead**



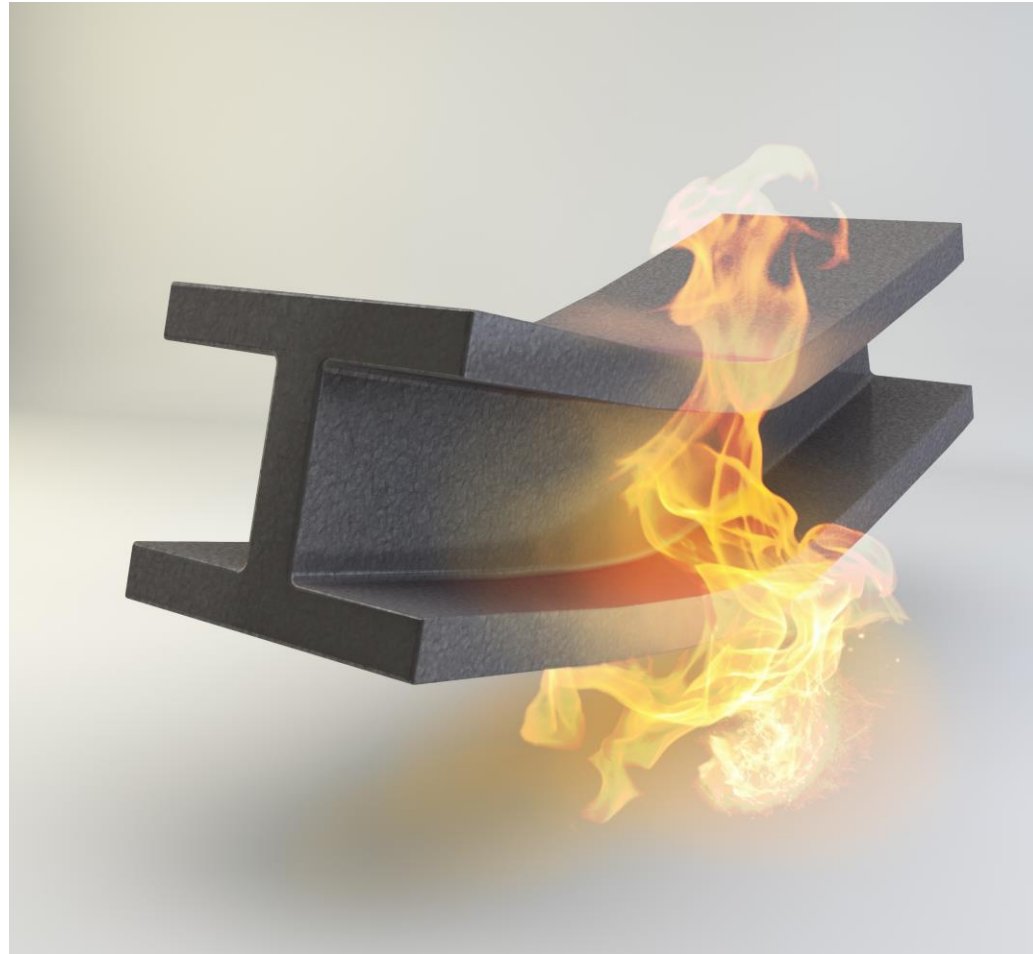
**China 2024, 15 dead**

**Residential fires cause an estimated 3000 deaths in the USA and 5000 in EU each year**

# Structural Protection with Intumescent Coatings

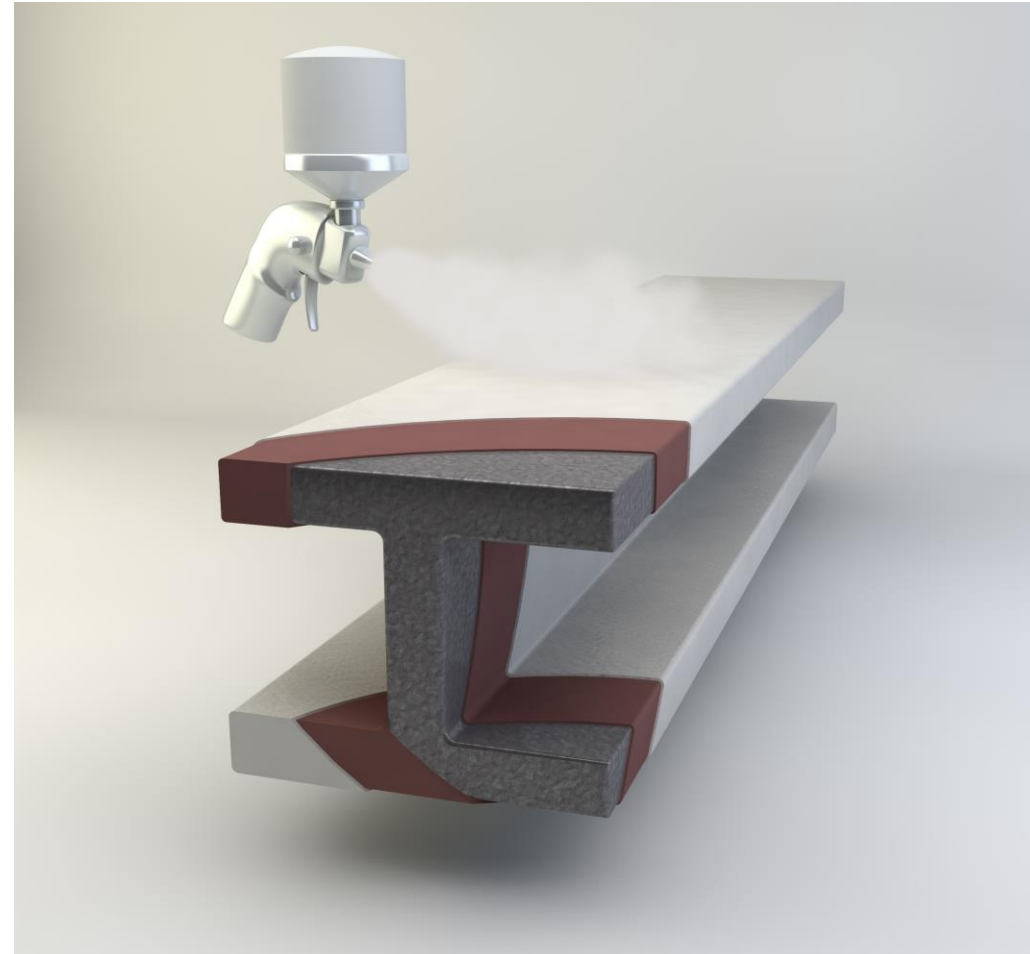
## Basics

Unprotected steel



500°C: Steel strength loss  
Fire resistance < 30 min

Steel protected with intumescent coating



Application: airless-spray,  
brush, roller

Steel protected with intumescent coating in a fire scenario



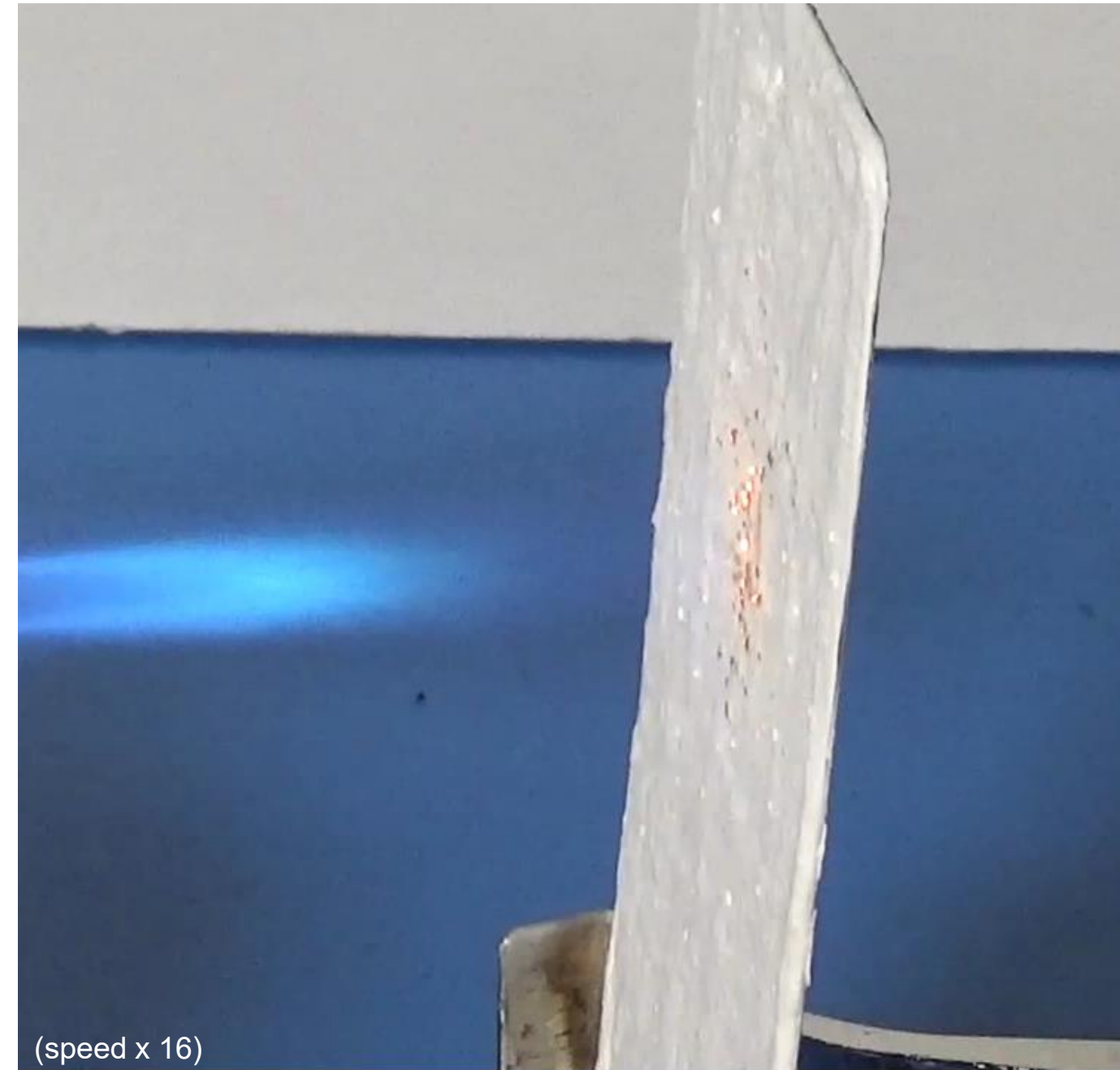
Steel with intumescent:  
tests compliance

Source: Clariant©

# How Intumescent Coatings Work

Expanding to protect and insulate

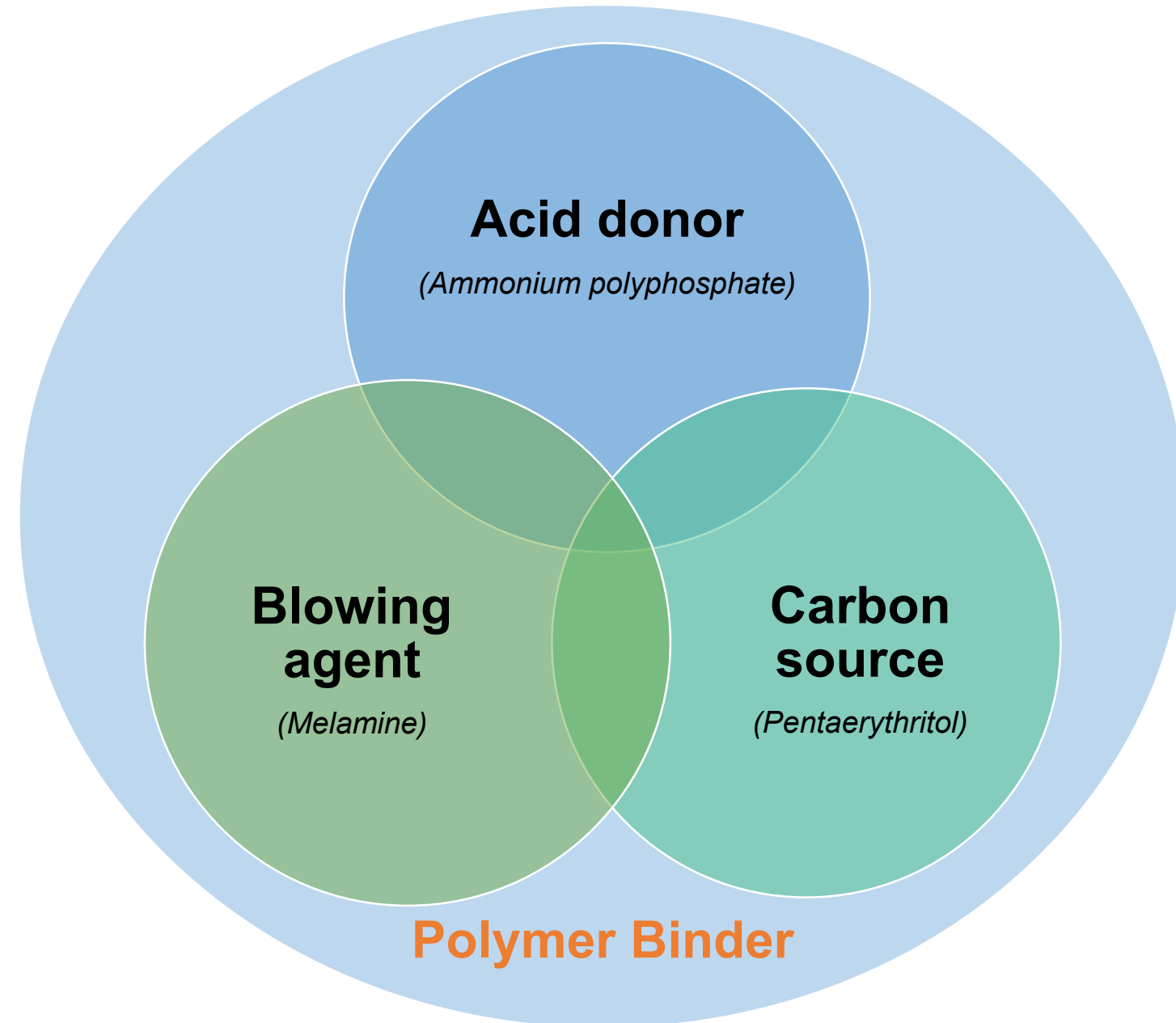
- Extends structural properties of the substrates
- Swells when submitted to heat ( $\approx 300^{\circ}\text{C}$ )
- Creates thermal insulation layer = char



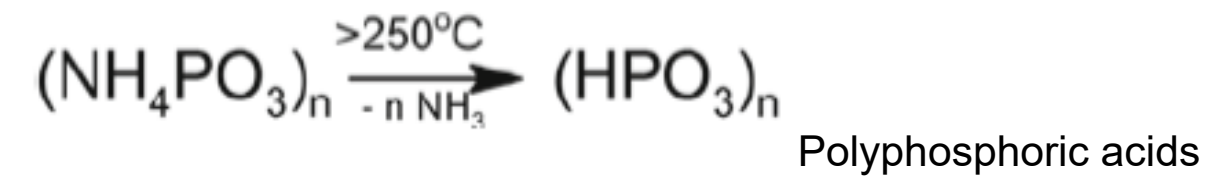
Intumescent paint based on **Vinyl Acetate/Vinyl Neodecanoate** binder  
(30wt% Vinyl Neodecanoate monomer)

# Key Ingredients of Intumescent Coatings

Key components:



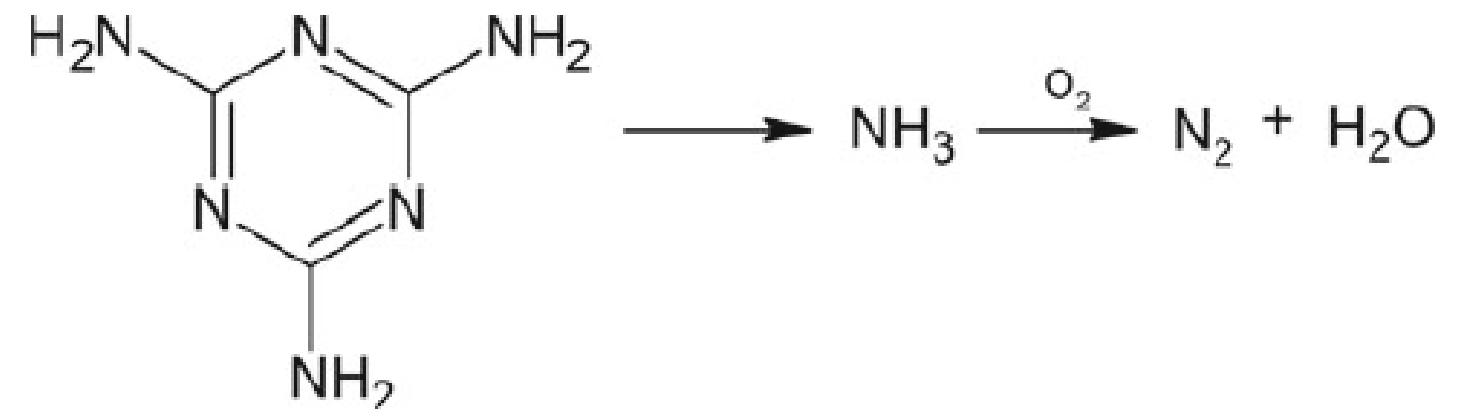
- First, the acid donor breaks down to yield an acid.



- Then, the acid takes part in the dehydration of the carbon source to yield the carbon char.



- Finally, the blowing agent decomposes to yield a gaseous product that expands the char.



# Fire Types and Intumescent Coatings

## CELLULOSIC FIRES

Combustible: timber, paper, furniture, textile  
500°C reached in 5 min.



➔ Mainly **Vinylics**, (Styrene)/Acrylics  
(50%WB, 25% SB, 25% HS EP)

## HYDROCARBON / JET FIRES

Combustible: oil, gas  
1000°C reached in 5 min.  
Radiation value: >3 times cellululosic fires.



➔ Epoxies



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# Waterborne Cellulosic Intumescent Coatings

## Current trends & unmet needs

- Growing market worldwide
- Looking for:
  - Longer protection (>2h)
  - Application easiness/ thin layers
  - Outdoor durability
- Styrene/Acrylic, All Acrylic and Vinylic binders can be used for this application
- Vinyl acetate-based binders provide best intumescent performance for cellulosic fire
- Vinyl neodecanoate is the ideal co-monomer to upgrade performance

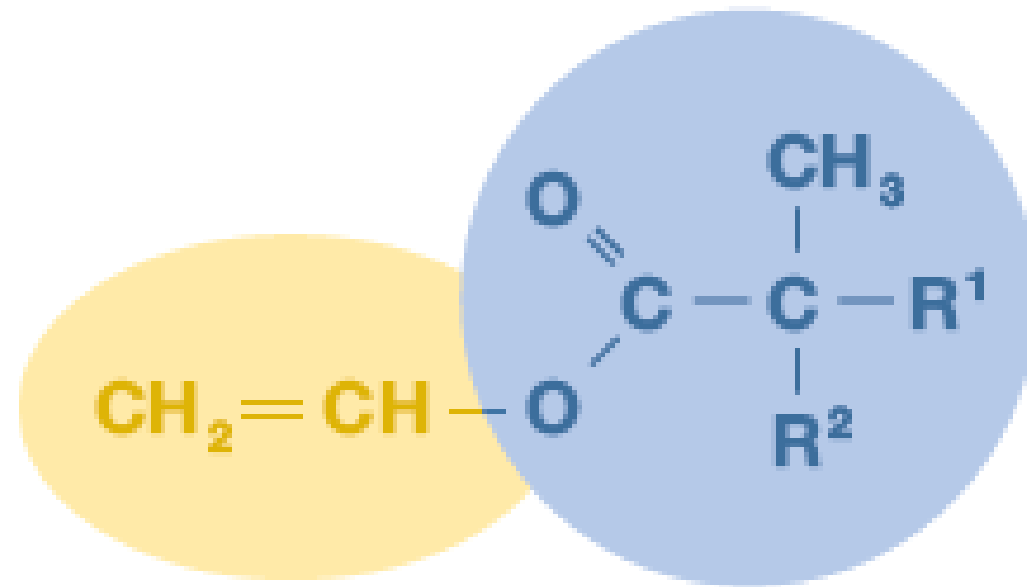
Section 2

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# Highly Aliphatic Vinyl Ester

# Highly Aliphatic Vinyl Ester

Vinyl neodecanoate



**Vinyl neodecanoate 10 monomer (VN10)**

$\text{R}^1 + \text{R}^2 = 7$  carbon atoms

## ■ Vinyl Ester

Easily copolymerisable with vinyl acetate

## ■ Aliphatic bulky structure

- Bulky alkyl chain
- Steric hindrance

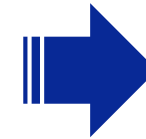
**Vinyl neodecanoate has inherent properties that enable high-performance waterborne applications**

# Benefits of Vinyl Neodecanoate in Intumescent Coatings

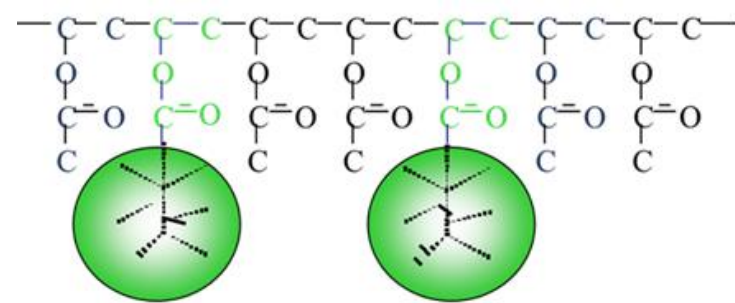
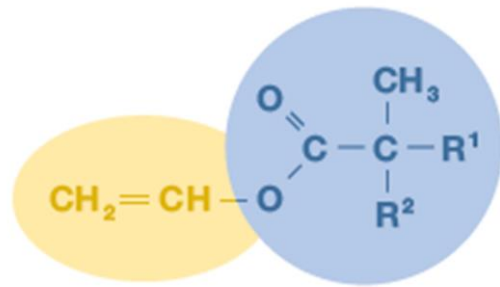
Waterborne Vinyl Acetate /Vinyl Neodecanoate binders

- **Advantages of vinyl neodecanoate**

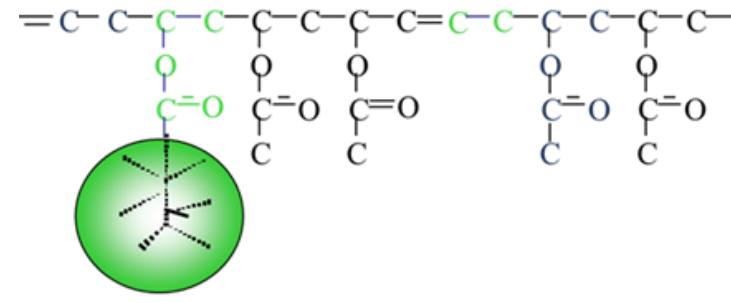
- **Hydrophobicity**
- High **branching** level
- **Stability**
- Specific thermal **degradation mechanism**



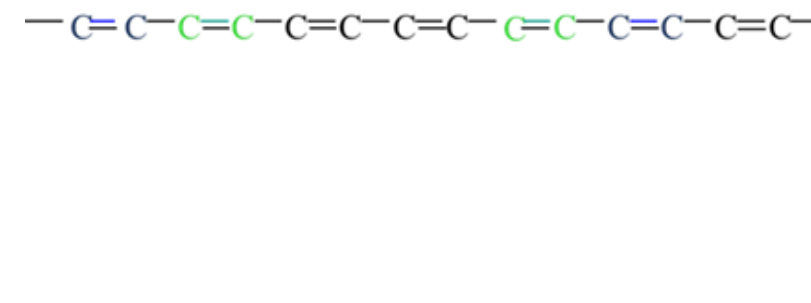
**Compensate** for low durability of vinyl acetate-based binders  
**Protect** additives sensitivity to humidity, acids... (APP, PER)  
Improve **char formation**  
**Outperform acrylic systems**, especially for thick layers



300°C



400°C



450°C

**Protective barrier layer**

*Cross-linking & charring on the surface*

*Successive losses of acids*

**Vinyl neodecanoate based polymers expected to provide better intumescent performance**

Section 3

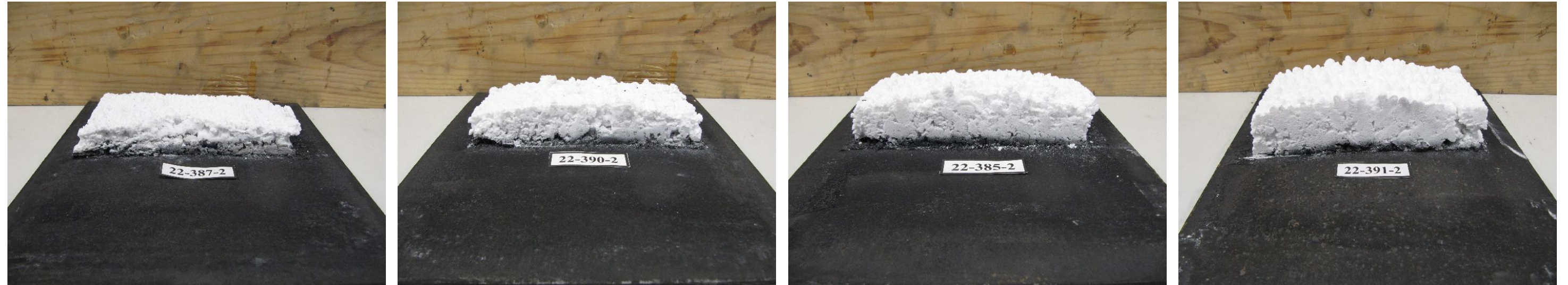
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# Performance

# High Carbon Content and Excellent Char Formation

Low VN10 content

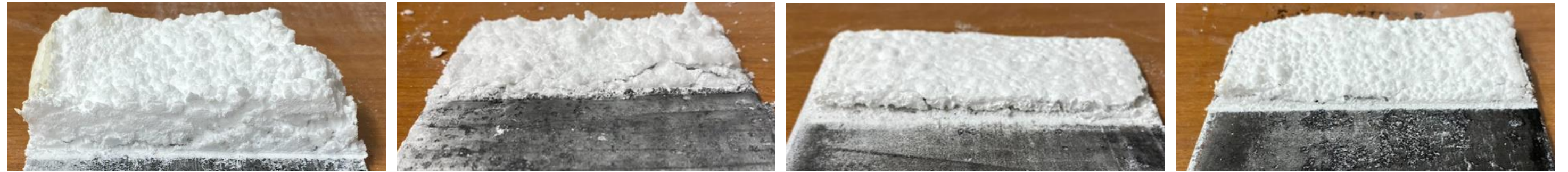
High VN10 content



Vinyl neodecanoate content in the binder	0 wt%	15 wt%	30 wt%	50 wt%
Time to reach 500°C	73 min	77 min	86 min	94 min
Expansion factor	30	40	48	52

Increasing vinyl neodecanoate monomer content in the binder enhance both the expansion factor and fire resistance

# Better Performance versus Other Chemistries



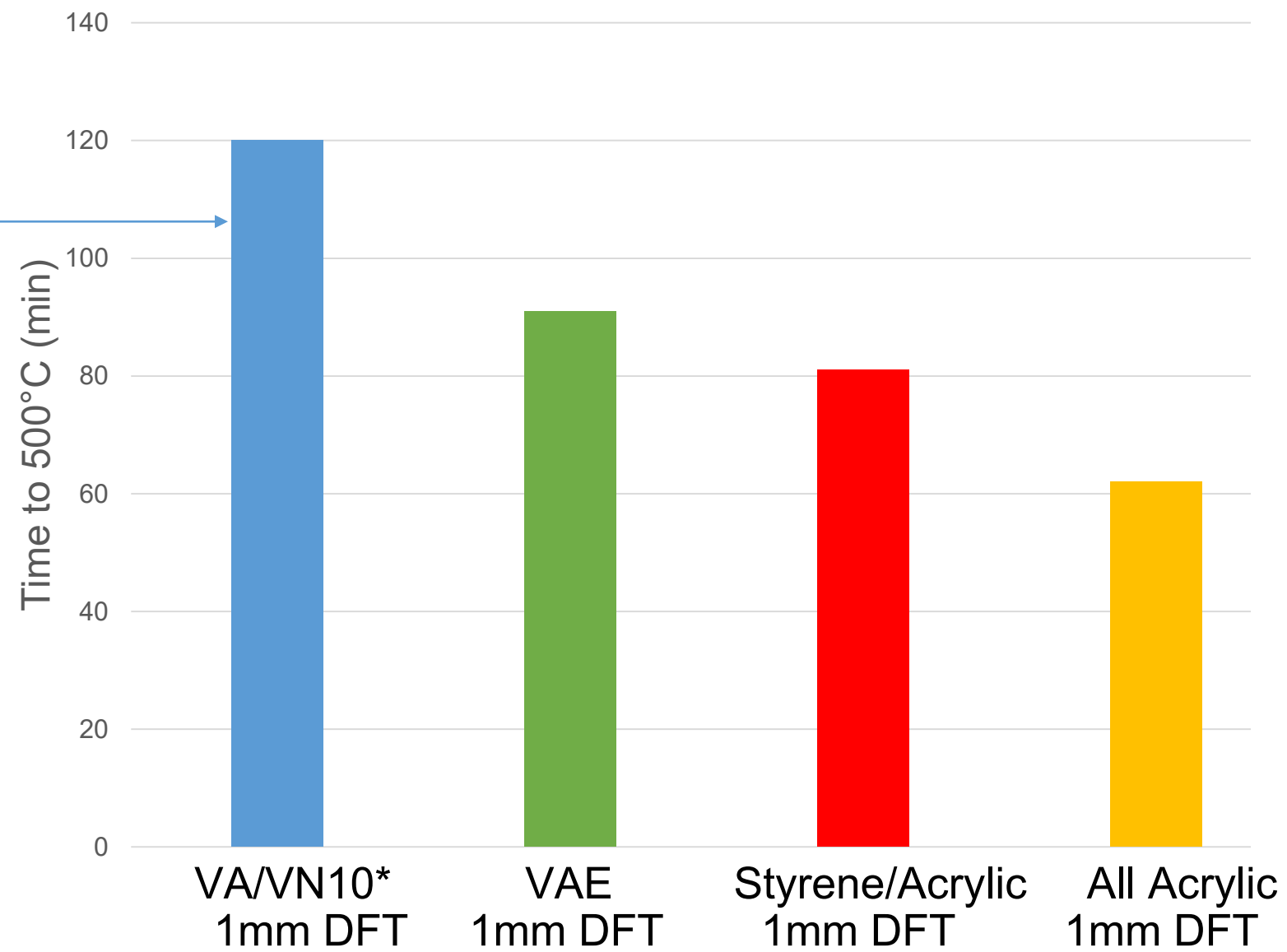
Binder type	VA/VN10*	VAE	Styrene/Acrylic	All Acrylic
Time to reach 500°C	> 120 min	91 min	81 min	62 min
Expansion factor	22	2	4	3

\*50/50

**Vinyl neodecanoate monomer enables better intumescent properties**

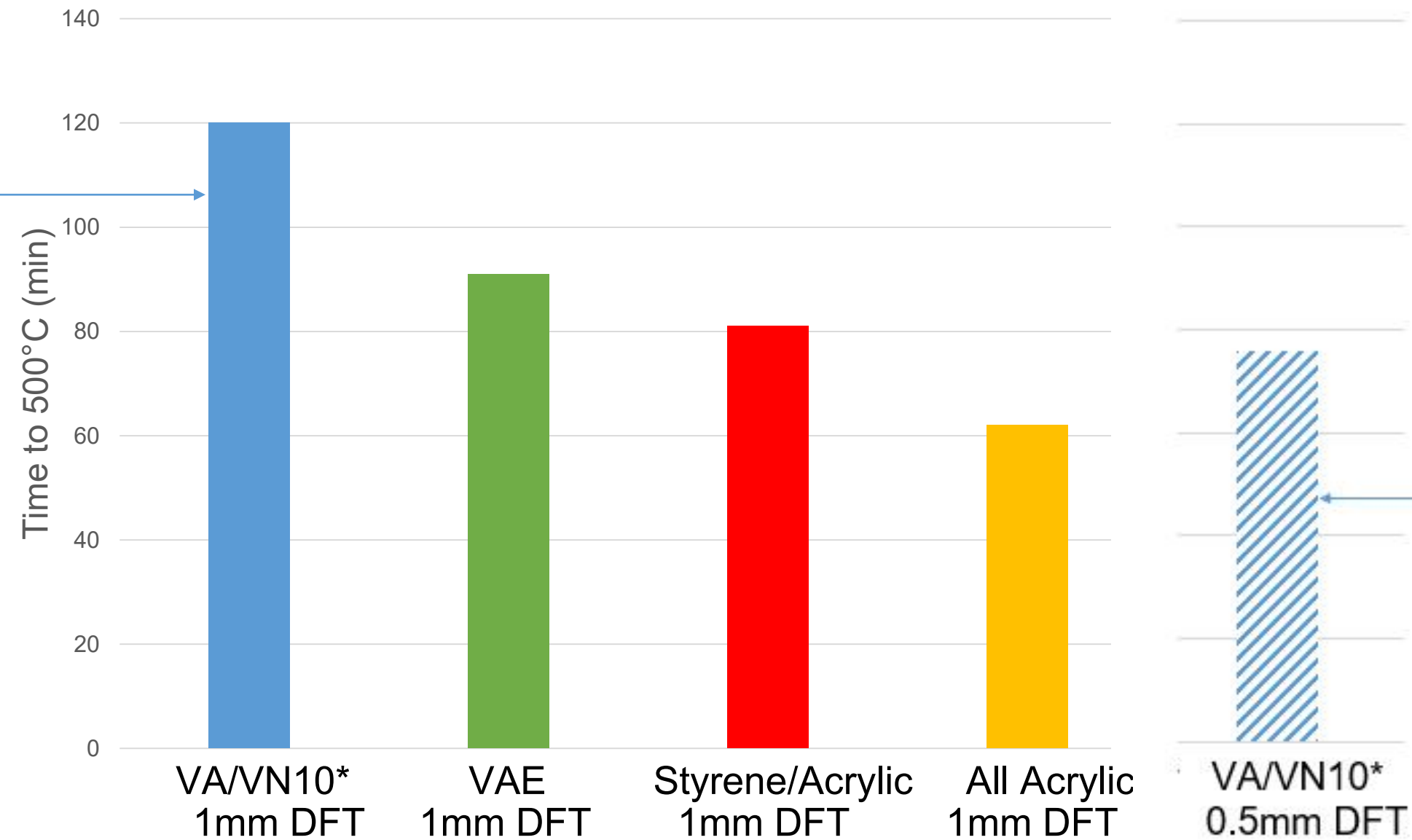


# Premium Fire Protection at Minimal Layer Thickness



\*50/50  
DFT = Dry Film Thickness

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DFT = Dry Film Thickness

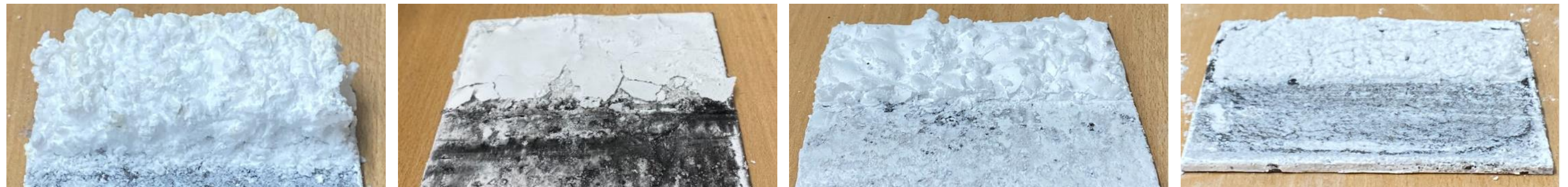
**Coating thickness can be reduced by 50% using vinyl neodecanoate-based binder while maintaining performance**

# Performance after Ageing

Type	Exposure conditions	Icons
X	For all conditions (internal, semi-exposed & exposed)	
Y	For internal & semi-exposed conditions (T<0°C, no rain, limited UV)	
Z1	For internal conditions (T>0°C) with high humidity	
Z2	For internal conditions (T>0°C) with humidity other than Z1	

EU EAD 350402-00-1106:

- Fire testing after accelerated ageing
- Type Y cut-off limit: at least 85% of fire performance of unaged coating



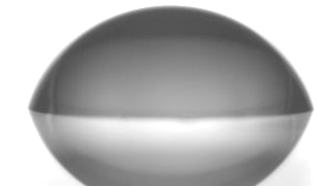
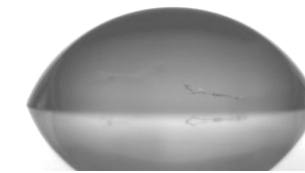
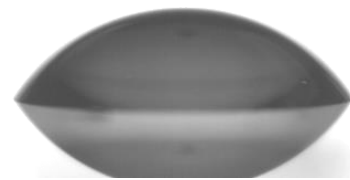
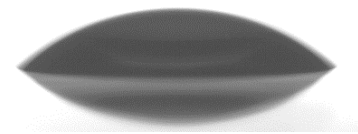
Binder type	Vinyl Acetate/Vinyl Neodecanoate	Vinyl Acetate/Ethylene	Styrene/Acrylic	All Acrylic
Time to reach 500°C (% of unaged panel)	109 min (91%) 	43 min (47%)	83 min (100%) 	51 min (82%)

\*50/50

**Vinyl neodecanoate allows to maintain properties under semi-exposed conditions**

# Performance Beyond Fire Protection

## Polymer water repellency



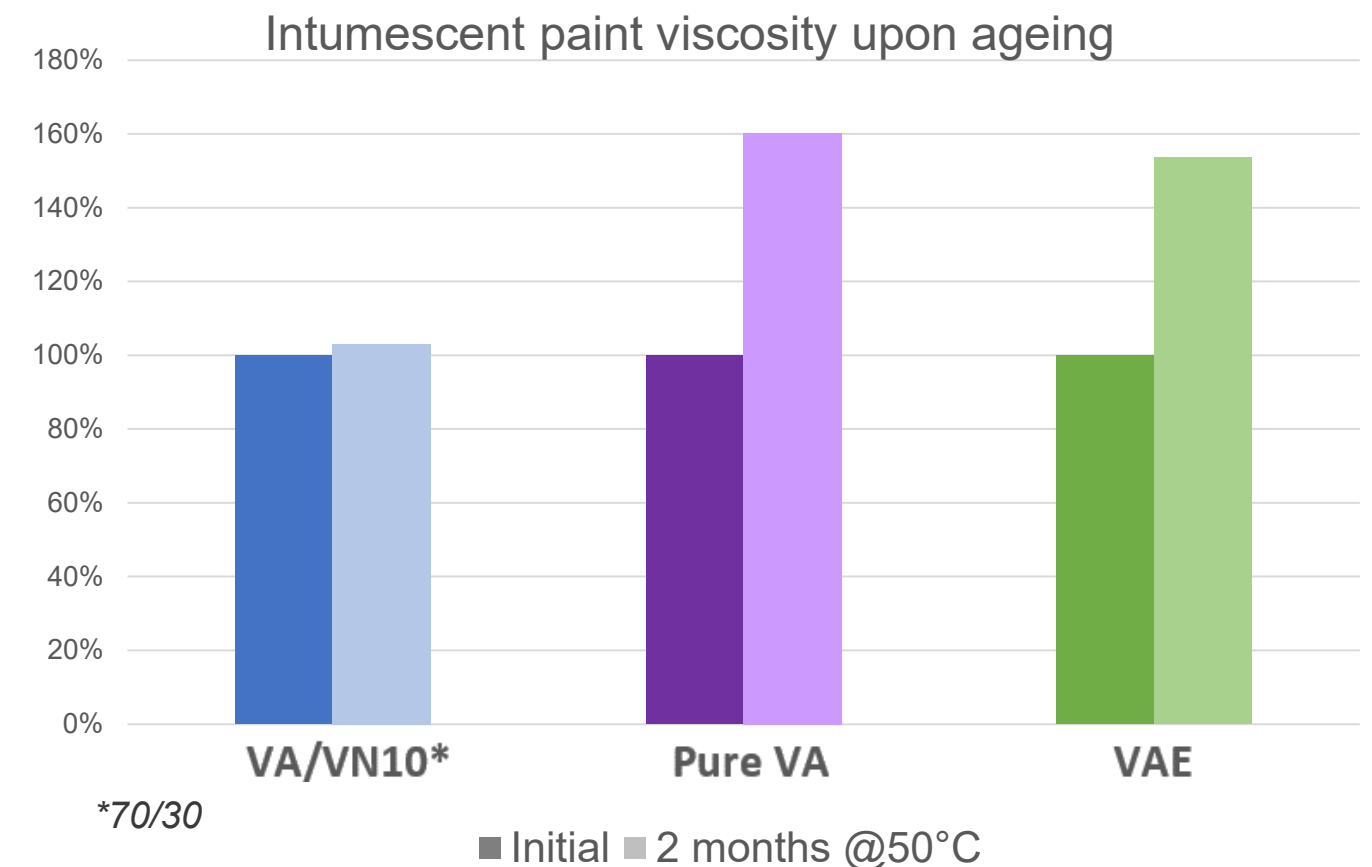
Vinyl neodecanoate content in the binder	0 wt%	15 wt%	30 wt%	50 wt%
Water contact angle (°)	35	57	67	71

Increasing the amount of vinyl neodecanoate in the polymer binder leads to higher water repellency

## Better In-can Paint Stability

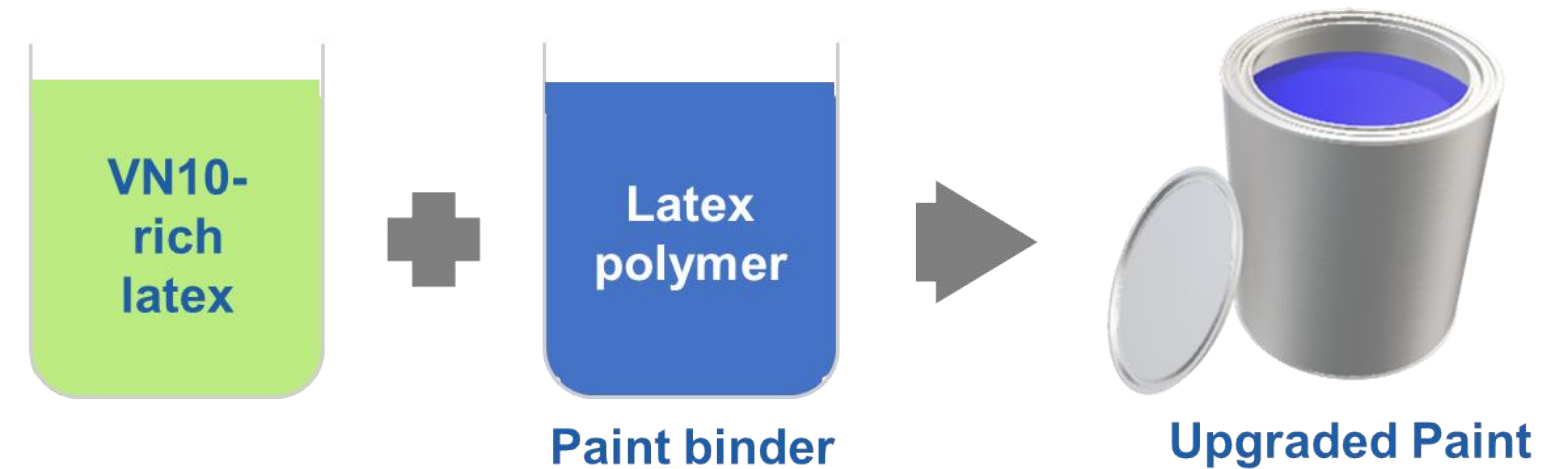
- Intumescent paints stored at 50°C for 2 months
- Viscosity monitoring

Vinyl neodecanoate enables Vinyl acetate-based paints to be viscosity stable upon storage



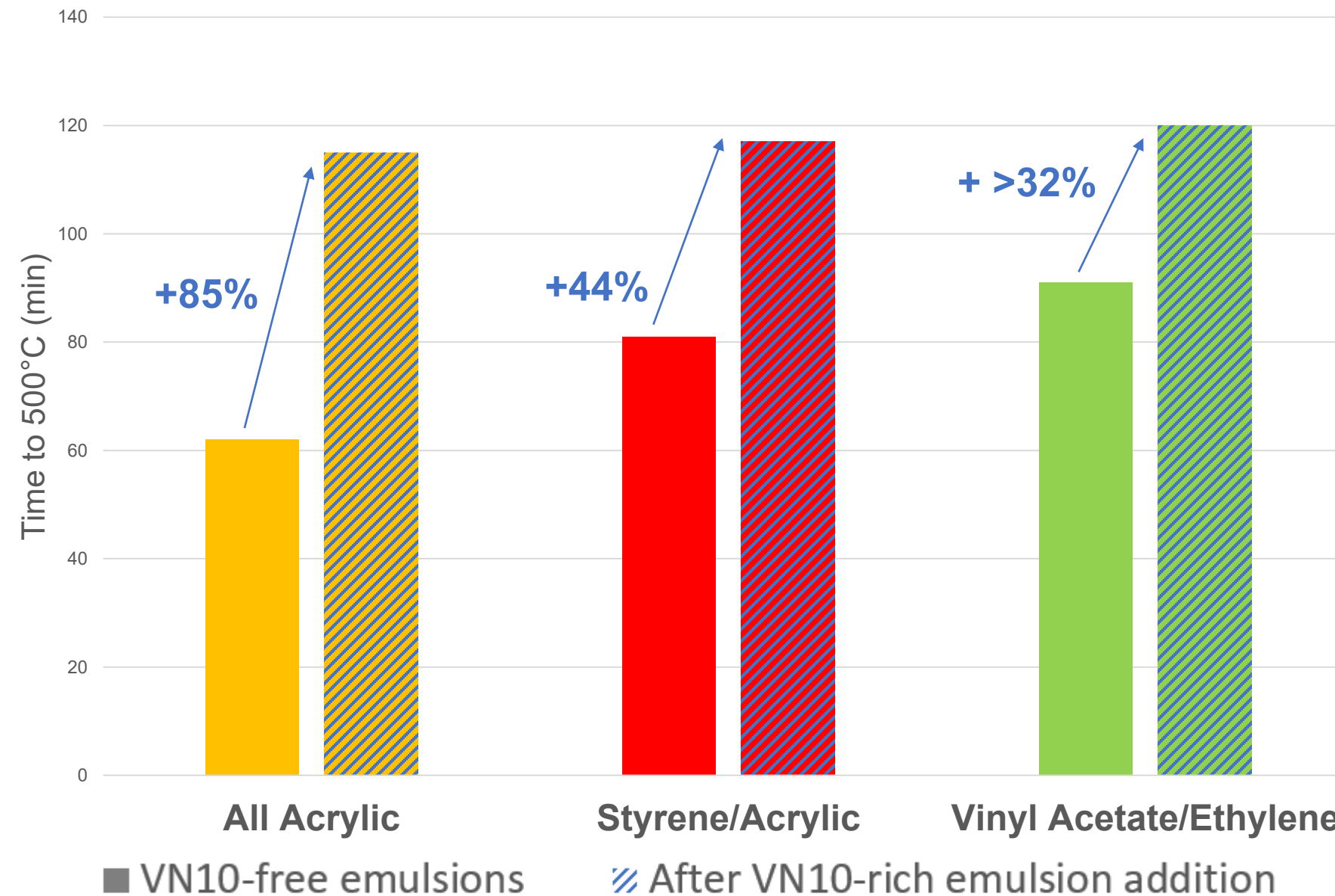
# Vinyl Neodecanoate-rich Emulsion as Blending Resin

## VeoPol Technology



- Vinyl neodecanoate-rich latex can be used as blending resin or as an additive to fully formulated paint
- Can be used in combination with all latex binder types including styrene/acrylic
- 1 single vinyl neodecanoate-rich latex can be used to upgrade different paint formulations
- Easy way to incorporate vinyl neodecanoate in a wide variety of applications

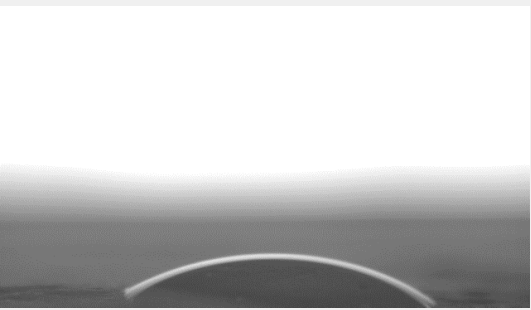
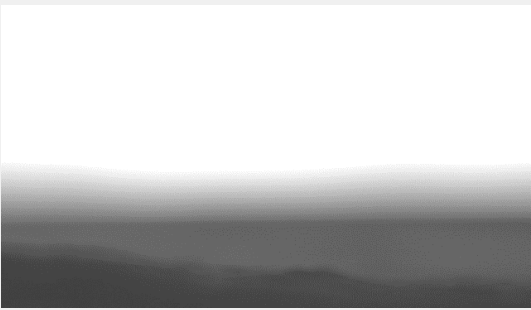
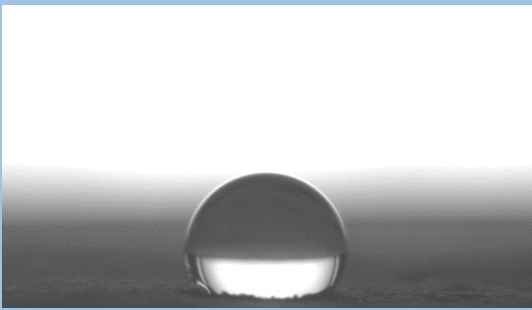
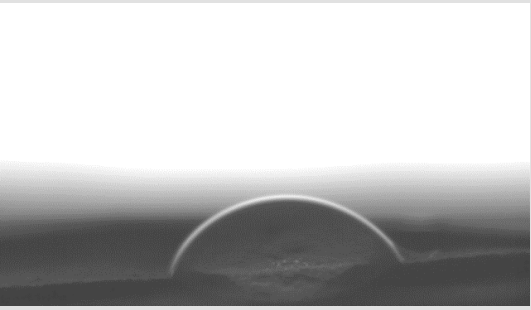
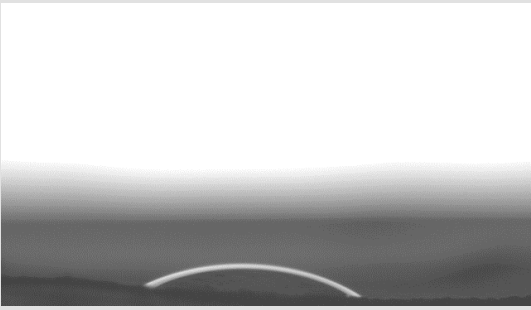
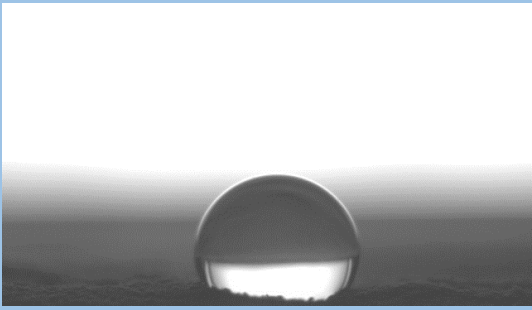
# Blending Resin Fire Performance



35 wt% of binder replaced by the vinyl neodecanoate-rich binder.  
Vinyl neodecanoate content in the final binder blend: 30wt%.

**Better intumescent properties are achieved with the addition of vinyl neodecanoate-rich emulsion**

# Coatings Water Repellency after Ageing

	Before ageing	After ageing (Y conditions)	
	Base emulsion	Base emulsion	Base emulsion + <b>Veopol</b>
<b>Polyvinyl Acetate</b>			
<b>Styrene/Acrylic</b>			

**Veopol improves water repellency of PVA and Sty/Acr and maintains it after ageing**

# Blending Approach for Emulsion Upgrade

Addition of vinyl neodecanoate-rich emulsion – Intumescent coating properties

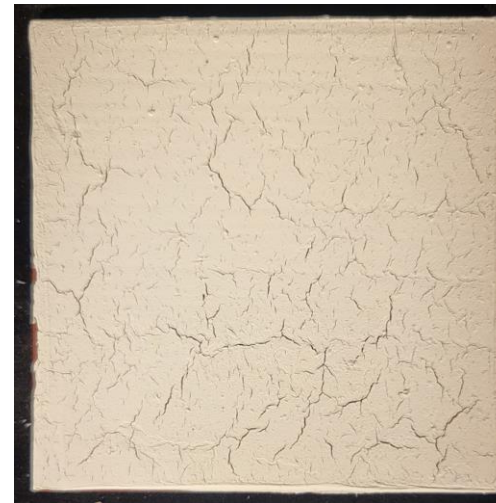
**BENCHMARK**  
commercially available emulsion  
for intumescent coating application

**Modified BENCHMARK**  
upgraded with addition of  
**Vinyl neodecanoate-rich emulsion**

Before ageing



After 160h QUV ageing  
(EN 927-6)



Zinc phosphate primer (80-120µm – 1 week RT drying)  
Intumescent paint coat (1mm wet – >2 weeks RT drying)

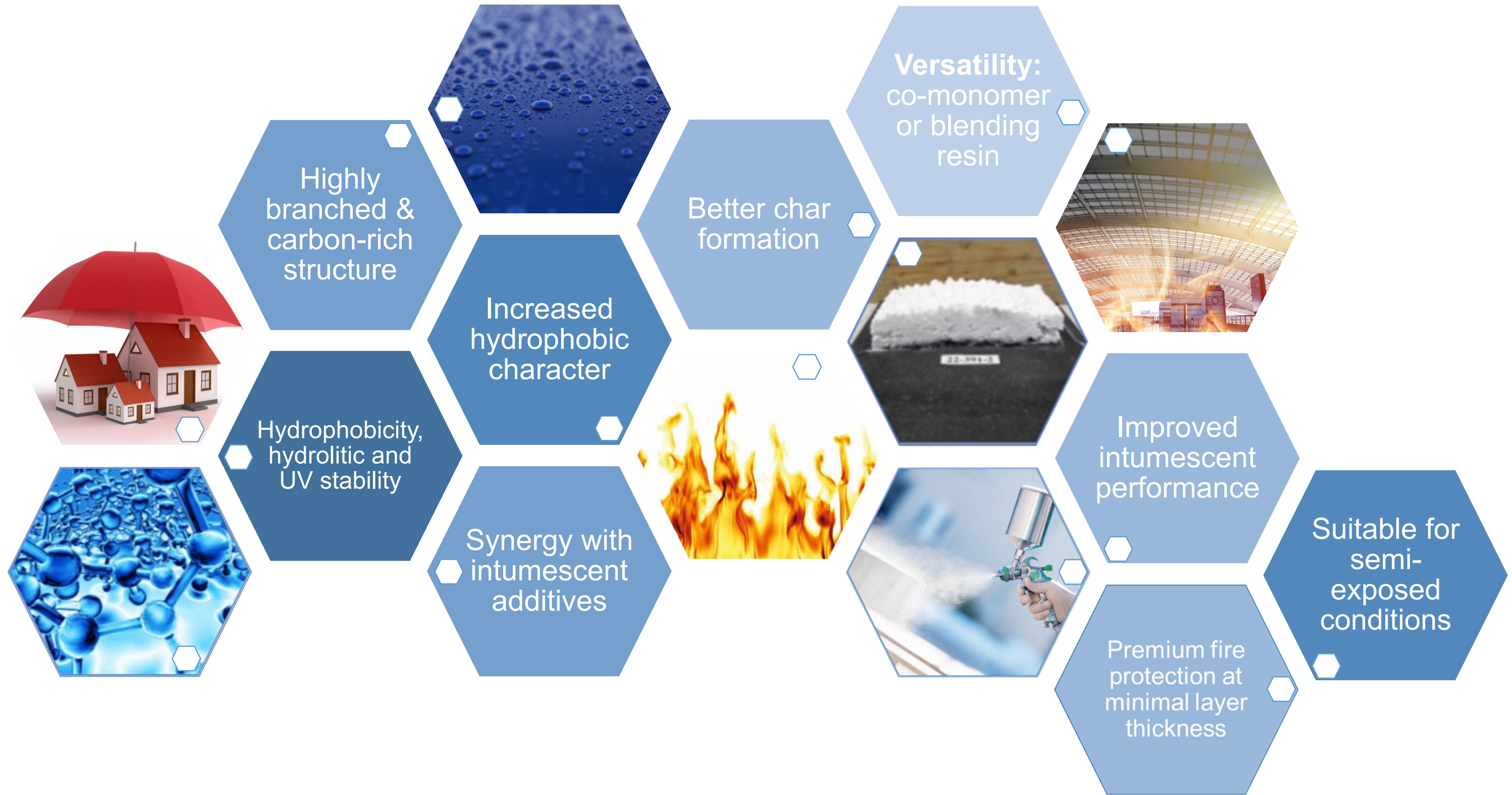
**Vinyl neodecanoate-rich emulsion addition enables better weathering resistance when blended with a standard emulsion**



Section 4

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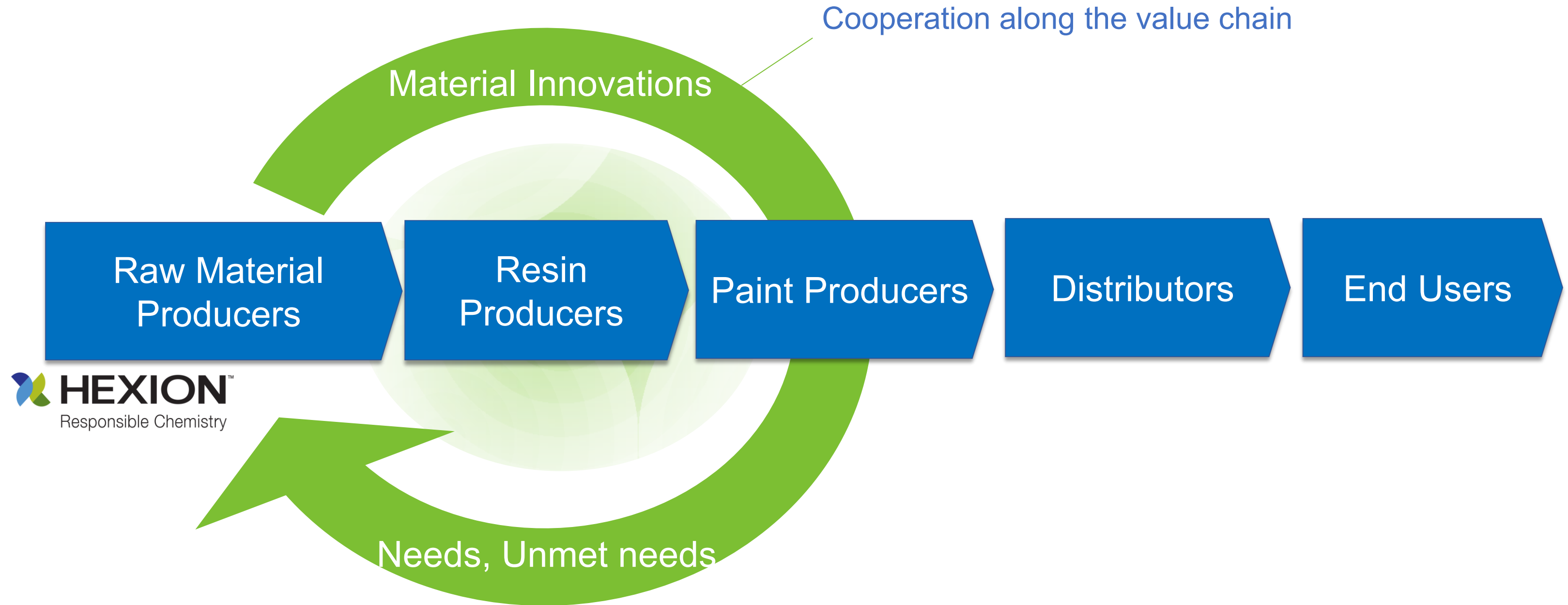
# Conclusions



## Vinyl Neodecanoate Monomer for High-Performance Intumescent Coatings

# Hexion Versatics

## Customer-Driven Innovation Approach



Come to discuss with us

# Thank you for your attention

Learn more at Tabletop #13

Visit our website: [Hexion.com/intumescent](https://hexion.com/intumescent)



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